

# FOUR LETTERS

FROM

The Queen in *France*; Read before the High-Court of Justice in *Westminster-Hall* on *Friday* last: The first directed to Her Son the King of *Scots*. The second, to the Marquess of *Arguyle*: The third, to the Earl of *Cassels*. And the fourth, to the Lord *London*.

Signed,

*Henretti Maria.*

With the Tryal of Colonel *Vaughan*, Captain *Massey*, and Doctor *Drake* before the said High-Court; The Charge of High-Treason exhibited against Them; And their Speeches and Confessions at the Bar:



LETTER

1804

My dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the purchase of a quantity of the same. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the quality of the same. I have been informed that the same is of the best quality, and I have been informed that the same is of the best quality. I have been informed that the same is of the best quality, and I have been informed that the same is of the best quality.

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*Four Letters from the Queen in France,  
read before the high Court of Justice  
on Fryday last, &c.*

**O**N Fryday being the 10. of this instant October, 1651. the High Court of Justice sat in Westminster-Hall, and after the proclaiming of the Court, about 10. of the Clock in the forenoon, Colonel West Lieut. of the Tower, according to order, brought the Prisoners to the Bar, to wit, Col. Vaughan, Captain Massey, (Brother to Major Gen. Massey) and Dr. Drake, who stand accused for High-Treason, as was evidently demonstrated and made manifest, by the Charge exhibited and read against them; wherein it appeared.

1. That they had held correspondence with the Enemies of this Nation.

2. That they had levied several sums of money, and for the carrying on of the Scots Design against England.

3. That they have had several meetings in the City, for the propagating and advancing of the Presbyterian Interest, which was both prejudicial and destructive to the present Government, &c. The Charge being read,



and divers Witnesses examined ; amongst the rest, Major *Alford*, Major *Adams*, and others ; *Dr. Drake* began his Plea, in answer to his Charge, acknowledging divers particulars, and humbly confessed what he had been privie to, or active in ; but on the contrary, denied many things laid to his Charge: yet notwithstanding, so far did the favour and clemency of this Honourable Court extend towards him, that he had the liberty of speech above an hour at the Bar. And *Col. Vaughan* and Captain *Masse*, were permitted to write down the Evidences brought in by the Witnesses. *Dr. Drake* having ended his Speech on Plea, *Col. Vaughan* presented his Petition, humbly beseeching the Honourable Court to take it into their gracious consideration. Then the Lord President *Keeble* proposed some questions to cap. *Masse*, concerning a meeting of the Presbyters in Fish-street, and touching his receipt of monies ; to which he answered, That the monies which he had received were brought in under the notion of a charitable use. His Lordship then asked him, what the Sum was, and how he had disposed of it. He replied, That he had received about 200 pounds, and that he had sent it to his Brother ; but never received any letter of the receipt thereof. After some time spent in examination of Witnesses, divers letters were produced and read, namely, four letters from the Queen in France, the first bearing this Supercription.

To the King my Son,

**W** Herein she represented, the present transactions of affaires in France, promising (to the utmost of her power) to leave no means unassayed, for the propagating and carrying on of his present Design ; as also intimating her

her fervent prayers and supplications for a blessing upon his undertakings; which Letter contained this conclusion.

Your loving (but perplexed) Mother,  
*Henretti Maria.*

The second was directed to the Marquess of Argile in Scotland, bearing date from Paris, with this inscription.

Beloved Cozen, wherein she further implores a blessing upon the proceedings of her Son, and the Council of Scotland, desiring his Lordship to use all meanes possible, for the bringing to maturity the great work in hand, &c. Subscribing her self, his Lordships affectionate friend,

*Henretti Maria.*

The third and fourth were sent to the Lord Loudon, and the Earl of Cassels; inviting them to be instrumental for the carrying on the Kings Interest, &c. To which letters she subscribed likewise,

*Henretti Maria.*

After the reading of these letters, divers other letters were read, subscribed by Cap. Titus, which contained matters of dangerous consequence against this present Government; and wherein the *Presbyterian* party were much engaged in, for the advancing of the King of Scots interest: So that it plainly appears, that there hath bin a great combination by the *Royalists* and *Presbyters*, for the extirpation of our present libertties. The Honourable Court having proceeded to examination of Witnesses, and after some progress made in relation to the Tryal, the Lieutenant of the Tower was ordered to take the prisoners from the Bar, and to carry them to the place from whence he brought them. And so adjourned to the painted Chamber.

Divers



Divers prisoners there are in several places, who seeing the Sword of *Justice* drawn, begin to grow very penitent : and amongst the rest Col. *Massey* since his coming to *Warwick* Castle, hath betook himself to these ensuing Meditations and prayers.

### *Prayers in time of danger.*

**A** Almighty and most merciful Father, look down upon me thy unworthy Servant, who here prostrate my self at the Foot-stool of thy Throne of Grace; but look upon me, O Father, through the Mediation and in the Merits of Jesus Christ, in whom thou art only well pleased; for, of my self I am not worthy to stand before thee, or to speak with my unclean lips to thee, most holy and eternal God! for as in sin I was conceived and born; so likewise I have broken all thy Commandments by my sinful motions, unclean thoughts, evil words, and wicked works; omitting many duties I ought to do, and committing many vices which thou hast forbidden under pain of thy heavy displeasure: as for my sins, O Lord, they are innumerable; wherefore I stand here liable to all the miseries in this life, and everlasting torments in that to come, if thou shouldst deal with me according to my deserts. I confess, O Lord, that it is thy mercy, (which endureth for ever) and thy compassion (which never failes) which is the cause that I have not been long ago consumed: but with thee there is mercy and plenteous Redemption; in the multitude therefore of thy Mercies, and by the Merits of Jesus Christ, I intreat thy divine Majesty, that thou wouldst not enter into judgement

ment with thy Servant, nor be extreme to mark what is done amiss, but be thou merciful unto me, and wash away all my sins with that precious blood that my Saviour shed for me. And I beseech thee O Lord, not only to wash away all my sins ; but also to purge my heart by thy holy spirit, from the dross of my natural corruption : and as thou dost add daies to my life ; so good Lord, I beseech thee to add repentance to my daies, that when I have past this mortal life, I may be partaker of thy everlasting Kingdom, through the Merits of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**O** Most merciful Father, though my sins are so many and grievous, that I may rather expect the effects of thy anger, then so great a deliverance, as to free me from my present great danger ; yet, O Lord, since thy mercies are over all thy works, and thou never failest to deliver all those who with humble and unfeigned repentance come to thee for succour, it were to multiply, not diminish my transgressions, to despair of thy heavenly favour : wherefore I humbly desire thy divine Majesty, that thou wilt not only pardon all my sins, but also free me out of the hands, and protect me from the malice of my Enemies. But if thy wrath against my heinous offences will not otherwise be satisfied, then to suffering me to fall under my present afflictions, Thy will be done ; yet, with humble importunity, I do, and shall never leave to implore the assistance of thy heavenly Spirit, O Lord so strengthen and enlighten all the faculties of my mind, that with clearness I may shew forth thy truth, and manfully endure my Tryal ; that so my sufferings here may not only glorifie thee, but likewise be a furtherance to my salvation hereafter. Grant this, O merciful Father, for his sake who suffered for me, even Jesus Christ the righteous, Amen.



O Lord our Father and Eternal God, unto whom nothing is  
 so great, that it may resist; or so small, that it is  
 contemned; look upon my Misery with thine eye of  
 mercy, and let thine infinite power vouchsafe to limit  
 out some proportion of deliverance unto me, as to Thee  
 shall seem most convenient: let not Injury, O Lord,  
 triumph over me, and let my faults by Thy hand be cor-  
 rected; and make not my enemies the ministers of Thy  
 Justice: But yet my God, if in thy wisdom this be the  
 aptest chastisement for my unexcusable transgressions;  
 if this ingrateful bondage be fittest for my over-high  
 desires; if the pride of my (not enough humble) heart  
 be thus to be broken, O Lord, I yield unto thy will, and  
 cheerfully imbrace what sorrow thou wilt have me suf-  
 fer: Onely thus much let me crave of Thee, that Thou  
 wilt suffer some beam of Thy Majesty so to shine in  
 my mind, that I, who acknowledge it my Noblest Title  
 to be thy Creature, may still, in my greatest Afflictions  
 depend confidently on Thee. Let Calamity be the exer-  
 cise, but not the overthrow of my Virtue. O Lord let  
 not their prevailing power be to my destruction. But  
 grant that I may still carry a pure mind, and stedfast  
 resolution ever to serve thee, without fear or presump-  
 tion; yet with that humble confidence which may best  
 please thee: so that at the last I may come to thy eter-  
 nal Kingdom through the merits of thy Son our alone  
 Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

**F. N. S.**